

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending. Claims 15-28 were withdrawn from examination. Claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 9 have been amended. Claims 2 and 8 have been canceled. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 7 can be found throughout the specification, for example, paragraphs [0001], [0003], [0005], [0008], [0043], [0054], [0065]-[0070], [0077], the Examples and canceled claims 2 and 8. Claims 3-5 and 9 were merely amended to correct their dependency in view of the cancellation of claims 2 and 7.

Therefore, no new matter has been added with this amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

I. 35 U.S.C. §101

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §101. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but in order to expedite prosecution, without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have opted amend the claims. The claims as amended can be differentiated by naturally occurring antibodies. Thus, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully rejected.

II. 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but in order to expedite prosecution, without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have opted amend the claims.

Amended claims 1 and 7 now state that the CAB molecules comprise "an antibody or functional fragment thereof, wherein the antibody or functional fragment thereof is capable of specifically binding to CEA antigen" and "an enzyme conjugated to said antibody or functional fragment thereof which is capable of converting a prodrug to an active drug". These elements are fully supported and explained in the specification, for example, in the sections cited above. In addition, claims 1 and 7 further have elements from claims 2 and 8, respectively.

Thus, the amended claims are clear and fully supported in the specification. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

III. **35 U.C.S. §102**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102, as allegedly being anticipated by Begent et al. (US 7,232,888). Applicants respectfully traverse, but in order to expedite prosecution, without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have opted to amend the claims. Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection as Begent et al. does not disclose each and every limitation of claims 1-4 and 7.

In order for Applicant's claims to lack novelty under 35 U.S.C. § 102, each and every element of the claimed invention must be disclosed in a single prior art reference. A prior art reference anticipates a claim *only if* the reference discloses, either expressly or inherently, every limitation of the claim.

Amended claims 1 states that the CAB molecule has a modified amino acid sequence as "set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the modification is at least one position selected from the group consisting of positions 100, 102, 104, 105, 107, 163, 165, 166, and 226". Amended claim 7 states that the CAB molecule has a modified amino acid sequence as "set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 as shown in Figure 2, wherein the modification is at least one position selected from the group consisting of 13, 16, 37, 100, 102, 104, 105, 107, 146, 163, 165, 166, 181, 184, 226, 265 and 568". Begent et al. does not disclose or even suggest a CAB molecule as currently claimed.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that this paper fully addresses the Office Action mailed December 21, 2011. Thus, Applicants believe that the claims as they are presented herein are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable disposition of this case is thus respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (650) 846-7639. In addition, The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-1048 (Docket No. GC822-US).

Respectfully submitted,

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